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COUNTRY YugoslaviaREPORT NO.  TOPIC Barracks in VRSAG, YugoslaviaEVALUATION see belowPLACE OBTAINED  

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DATE OF CONTENT see belowDATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 24 August 1949REFERENCES  PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 2 BlueprintsREMARKS  

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1. Annex 1 shows the military installation in VRSAG (Y 18/Y 94). Source supplied the following supplementary information:

a. New barracks buildings were at the northern town border of VRSAG.   about 45 buildings had been constructed or were under construction between the stadium and "Castle Mountain", on both sides of the road leading to the airfield. It is assumed that the barracks belonged to the Yugoslav Air Force.

b. Barracks at the southern town border were comprised of four three-story barracks buildings, stables and utilities buildings. A unit with 120-mm mortars was observed in the barracks. Tactical training of troops in company strength was observed on a nearby training area. One brigade was quartered in the Southern Barracks, according to local residents. Source believed the unit to be horse-drawn.

c. Barracks in the town center. One brigade, presumably infantry, was quartered there,  

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d. A transport unit equipped with about 40 trucks of different types was quartered in two buildings of the officers' camp.

e. A headquarters was located in private buildings close to the municipal hospital near the stadium. Source believed this headquarters to be a training staff and sports school of the "Tito-Bodyguard" unit.

About one hundred troops wearing red-bordered visor-caps and armed with submachine guns were observed there.

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Next Review Date: 2008

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2. a. Source stated that one brigade (presumably mountain artillery) of 400 troops and 200 horses was quartered in the barracks in the town center (see Annex 2). (Old barracks built during the time of the Austrian monarchy).

b. East of the mentioned barracks there was the old Austrian "Cavalry Brigade" Barracks (four large quartering buildings, five stables and utilities buildings). The barracks were occupied by about four hundred troops, three hundred to four hundred horses. New recruits arrived in October 1948.

c. A motor transport brigade equipped with three-axle trucks of Italian and US make and operating a repair shop for all trucks stationed in the area of V.540 was located as indicated in Annex 2.

3. Source designated the barracks located at the southern town border of V.540 (para 1, b) as "Artillery Barracks". Source saw only four to five horse-drawn guns of about 75-mm caliber with limbers; about 40 horses, "93 K" cartridges of German origin, submachine guns of Soviet origin, and horse-drawn vehicles. Source saw troops engaged in infantry field training.

4. a. Location of the southern barracks and its occupation by a cavalry unit (about two hundred horses). Mostly recruits have been quartered there since October 1948.

b. Many private-owned houses of the town were occupied by troops.

5. a. One horse-drawn antitank brigade equipped with 37-mm and 75-mm antitank guns of German and Soviet origin and with medium and heavy mortar was quartered in the old "honved" barracks.

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b. Source supplied information on a unit known as "Tito-Guards", consisting of one or two companies which were quartered in private houses. The troops were well-clad and armed with submachine guns and machine guns of German origin.

c. Miscellaneous information (mostly based on discussions with Yugoslav soldiers):

(1) A division headquarters was stationed in NOVI SAD. From there, officers came to VRSAC for inspections.

(2) One tank brigade equipped with tanks of German and Italian origin had been stationed in BILA ORKVA until May 1948. It was transferred to TRAVNIK, Bosnia after the Tito-Cominform conflict. (This information was supplied [redacted] who worked in BILA ORKVA).

(3) The Yugoslav-Romanian border east of VRSAC was guarded by patrols. No fortifications were observed.

6. a. Source confirmed the cavalry brigade of two troops of 120 men each. Their barracks (old Austrian-Hungarian barracks) had been named "Prince Eugen barracks" during the war. The unit was equipped with carbines of German origin, submachine guns of Soviet origin and, until 1947, with two 50-mm antitank guns.

b. According to Yugoslavs, the former stud-farm was being improved as barracks for a "tank-brigade". The barracks was not yet completed by late 1948. It was occupied by about one hundred troops. Source saw six to ten trucks, some tractors but no tanks.

c. An officers' candidate school had been located in BILA ORKVA until the summer of 1948. The school later moved to an unknown location.

[redacted] Comments: From the report it was inferred that the following units were stationed in VRSAC in late 1948:

a. One cavalry brigade (A cavalry brigade had been located in VRSAC already in November 1947, according to previous information.)

b. One horse-drawn artillery or antitank brigade.

c. Motor transport unit with about 40 trucks.

d. One unit of one or two companies, which was designated "TITO-Guards".

The following barracks were under construction at that time: an air force barracks and another barracks which was designated Pan. Barracks by Yugoslavs, and which was not occupied by tank troops in late 1948.

2 Annexes: 1.)  
2.) Barracks in VRSAC, Yugoslavia.

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